Fron County Register

BY ELI D. AKE. IRONTON, - - - MISSOURL

President's Message.

WASHINGTON, D. C., Dec. 6. To the Senate and House of Representatives of the United States: An appalling calamity has befallen the American people since their chosen representatives last met in the halls where you are now as-sembled. We might else recall with unalloyed content the rare prosperity with which throughout the year the nation has been blessed. Its harvests have been plenteous, its varied industries have thriven, the health of its people has been preserved, it has main-tained with foreign governments the undis-turbed relations of switty and people. For these turbed relations of amity and peace. For these manifestations of His favor we owe to Him who holds our destiny in His hands the tribute of our grateful devotion. To that mysterious exercise of will which has taken from us the loved and illustrions citizen who was but lately the head of the nation, we bow in sorrow and submission. The memory of his exalted character, of his noble achievements and of his patriotic life, will be treasured forever as a sacred possession of the whole people. The announcement of his death drew rounforcing accomments and reconfigurations. fromforeign governments and peoples tributes of sympathy and sorrow which history will record as signal tokens of the kinship of na-tions and the federation of mankind.

FOREIGN RELATIONS.

The feeling of good will between our Government and that of Great Britain was never more marked than at present. In recognition of this pleasing fact I directed, on the occasion of the late centennial celebration at Yorktown, that a salute be given to the Brit-

Save for the correspondence to which I shall refer hereafter in relation to the pro-posed canal across the Isthmus of Panama, little has occurred worthy of mention in the diplomatic relations of the countries, Early in the year the Fortune Bay claims were satisfactorily settled by the British Government paying in full the sum of £15,000, most of which has already been distributed. As the terms of the settlement included compensa-tion for injuries suffered by our fishermen at Aspee Bay, there has been retained from the gross award a sum which is deemed ade-quate for these claims. The participation of Americans in the exhibitions at Melbourne and Sydney will be appropriately mentioned in the reports of the two exhibitions soon to be presented to Congress. They will disclose the readiness of our countrymen to make successful competition in distant fields of enterpolice.

Negotiations for an international copyright convention are in hopeful progress. The sur-render of Sitting Bull and his force upon the Carender of sitting Bulland instorce upon the Ca-nadian frontier, has allayed all apprehension, although bodies of British Indians still cross the border in quest of sustenance. Upon this subject a correspondence has been opened which promises an adequate understanding. Our troops have orders to avoid, meanwhile

all collisions with alien Indians.

The presence at the Yorktown celebration of representatives of Lafayette and of his gallant compatriors who were our allies in the Revolution has served to strengthen the spir-it of good will which has always existed be-tween the two nations. You will be furnished with the proceedings of the Bimetallic Con-ference held during the summer at the city of Paris. No accord was reached, but a valuable interchange of views was had, and the con-ference will next year be renewed.

At the electrical exhibition and congress.

also held at Paris, this country was creditably represented by eminent specialists who, in the absence of an appropriation, generously lent their efficient aid at the instance of the State Department. While our exhibitions in this almost distinctively American field of achievements have went averaged a recommendation. achievement have won several awards, I recommend that Congress provide for the repayment of the personal expenses incurred in the public interest by the honorary commissions and delegators.

ne public interest by the honorary commis-sioners and delegates.

No new questions respecting the status of our naturalized citizens in Germany have arisen during the year, and causes of com-plaint, especially in Alsace and Loraine, have practically ceased, through the liberal action of the imperial government in of the imperial government in accepting our often expressed views on the subject. The application of the Treaty of 1868 to the lately acquired Rhenish provinces has received very earnest attention, and a definite and lasting agreement on this point is confidently

expected.

The participation of the descendants of Baron Von Steuben in the Yorktown festivities, and their subsequent reception by their American kinsmen, evince the ties of good will which unite the German people and our

Our intercourse with Spain has been friend ly. An agreement concluded in February last fixes a term for the labors of the Spanisi and American Claims Commission. The Spanish Government has been requested to pay the late awards of the commission and will, it is believed, accede to the request as promptly and courteously as on former occasions. By recent legislation numerous fines have been imposed upon American shinning

have been imposed upon American shipping in Spanish and colonial ports for slight irregularties in manifests.

One case of hardship is specially worthy of attention. The bark "Masonic," bound for Japan, entered Manila in distress, and is there forced to lie confiscated under Spanish revenue laws for an alleged shortage to her transhipmed earner. The bark of orts for in her transhipped cargo. Though efforts for her relief have thus far proved unavailing, it is expected that the matter will be adjusted in

is expected that the matter will be adjusted in a friendly spirit.

The Senate resolutions of condolence on the assination of the Czar Alexander Second were appropriately communicated to the Russian Government, which in turn has expressed its sympathy in our late national bereavement. It is desirable that our cordial relations with Russia should be strengthened by proper engagements, assuring to peaceable Americans who visit the Empire the consideration which is due to them as citizens of a friendly State. This is especially needful with respect to American Israelites, whose classification with the native Hebrews has evoked energetic remonstrances from this Government.

The abolition of all discriminating duties against colonial productions of the Dutch East

against colonial productions of the Dutch East Indies as are imported hither from Holland, has been already considered by Congress. I trust that at the present session the matter may be favorably concluded. The insecurity of life and property in many parts of Turkey has given rise to correspondence with the has given rise to correspondence with the Porte looking particularly to the better pro-tection of American missionaries in the empire. The condemned murderer of the em-inent missionary, Dr. Justin W. Parsons, has not yet been executed, although this Govern-ment had repeatedly demanded that exem-plary justice be done.

The Swiss Government has solicited the good offices of our diplomatic and consular good offices of our diplomatic and consular agents for the protection of its citizens in countries where it is not itself represented. This request has within proper limits been granted. Our agents in Switzerland have been instructed to protest against the conduct of the authorities of certain communes in permitting the emigration to this country of criminals or other objectionable persons, feveral such persons, through the co-operation of the Commissioner of Emigration at New York, have been sent back by the steamers which brought them. A continuance of this course may prove a more effective remedy than diplomatic remonstrance.

Treaties of commerce and navigation and for the regulation of consular privileges have

for the regulation of consular privileges have been concluded with Roumania and Servia since their admission into the family of European states. As is natural with contiguous mates having like institutions and like aims of advancement and development, the friending of the United States and Mexico has been constantly maintained. The Government has lost no occasion of encouraging the Mexican lost no occasion of encouraging the Mexican Government to a beneficial realization of the mutual advantages which will result from more intimate commercial intercourse, and from the opening of the rich interior of Mexicoto railway enterprise. I deem it important that means be provided to restrain the

King of the Beigians, the King of Spain and the President of the Argentine Confederation. The King of the Beigians has consented to act, but I am not as yet advised of the action of the King of Spain. As we have certain interests in the dispated territory which are protected by our treaty engagement with one of the pacts, it is important that the arbitration should not, without our consent, affect our rights, and this Government has accordingly thought proper to make its views known to the parties to the agreement as well as to intimate them to the Belgian Government.

The questions growing out of the proposed inter-oceanic water-way across the Isthmus of Pagama are of grave national importance. This Government has not been unmindful of the solemn obligations imposed upon it by its compact of 1846 with Colombia, the independent and sovereign mistress of the territory crossed by the canal, and has sought to render them effective by fresh engagements with the Colombian Republic, looking to their practical execution. The negotiations to this end, after they had reached what appeared to be a mutually satisfactory solution here, were met in Colombia by a disayowal of the power which its envoy had assumed, and by a proposal for renewed negotiation on a modified basis. Meanwhile this Government learned that Colombia had proposed to the European Powers to join in a guarantee of the neutrality of the proposed Panama Canal, a guarantee which would be in direct contravention of our obligation as the sole guarantee which would be in direct contravention of our obligation as the sole guarantee of the integrity of Colombian territory, and of the neutrality of the canal itself. My lamented predecessor felt it his duty to place before the European powers the reasons which make the prior guarantee of the United States indispensable, and for which the interjection of any foreign guarantee might be regarded as a superfluous and unfriendly act. Foreseeing the probable reliance of the British Government on the provisions of the Cla liance of the British Government on the pro-visions of the Clayton-Bulwer treaty of 1850, as affording room for a share in the guaran-tees which the United States covenanted with Colombia four years before, I have not hesitated to supplement the action of my predecessor by proposing to her Majesty's Government the modification of that instru-ment and the abrogation of such clauses thereof as do not comport with the obliga-tions of the United States toward Colombia or with the vital needs of the the two friendly parties to the compact.

parties to the compact. This Government sees with great concern the continuance of the hostile relations be-tween Chili, Bolivia and Peru. An early tween Chili, Bolivia and Peru. An early peace between these republics is much to be desired, not only that they may be spared further misery and bloodshed, but because their continued antazonism threatens consequences which are, in my judgment, dangerous to the interests of republican government; and calculated to destroy the best element of our free and peaceful civilization. As in the present excited condition of popular feeling in these countries there has been sefeeling in these countries there has been serious misapprehensions of the position of the United States, and as separate diplomatic intercourse with each through independent ministers is sometimes subject, owing to the want of prompt reciprocal communication, to emporary misunderstanding, I have deemed t judicious at the present time to send a spe-ial envoy accredited to all and each of them, furnished with general instructions which will, I trust, enable them to bring these pow-ers into friendly relations. The Government of Venezuela maintains its

attitude with great regularity in its payment of the monthly quota of the diplomatic debt. Without suggesting the direction in which Without suggesting the direction in which Congress could act, I ask attention to the pending questions affecting the distribution of the sums thus far received. The relations between Venezuela and France growing out of the same debt have been for some time past in an unsatisfactory state, and this Government, as the neighbor and one of the largest creditors of Venezuela, has interposed itself since with the French Government, with the view of producing a friendly and honorathe view of producing a friendly and honorable adjustment.

I regret that the commercial interests be-tween the United States and Brazil, from which great advantages were hoped a year ago, have suffered from the withdrawal of the American lines of communication between the Brazilian ports and our own. Through the efforts of our Minister resident at Buenos Ayres and the United States Minister at San-tingo, a traggy has been concluded between Ayres and the United States Minister at Santiago, a treaty has been concluded between the Argentine Republic and Chili, disposing of the long pending Patagonian boundary question. It is a matter of congratulation that our Government has been afforded the opportunity of successfully exerting its good influence for the prevention of disagreements between the republics of the American Continent.

I am glad to inform you that the treaties lately negotiated with China have been duly ratified on both sides, and the exchange made rathled on both sides, and the exchange made at Peking. Legislation is necessary to carry the provisions into effect. The prompt and friendly spirit with which the Chinese Government, at the request of the United States, conceded the modification of existing treaties should secure careful regard for the interests and susceptibilities of that Government in the enactment of any laws relating to Chinese imprignation. Chinese immigration.

Those clauses of the treaties which forbid he participation of citizens or vessels of the United States in the oping trade will doubtchees receive your approval. They will attest the sincere interest which our people and Government feel in the commendable efforts of the Chinese Government to put a stop to this demoralizing and destructive traffic. In relation both to China and Japan some changes are desirable in our present system of jurisdiction. I hope at some future time to lay before you a scheme for its improvement

th the entire East.

The intimacy between our country and Japan, the most advanced of the Eastern nations, continues to be cordial. I am informed tions, continues to be cordial. I am informed that the Emperor contemplates the establishment of a constitutional government, and that he has already summoned a parliamentary congress for the purpose of effecting a change. Such a remarkable step toward complete assimilation with the Western system can not tail to bring Japan into closer and more beneficial relationship with ourselves as the chief pacific power.

the chief pacific power.

The King of Hawaii, in the course of his homeward return after a journey around the world, has lately visited this country. While our relations with that kingdom are friendly, this Government has viewed with concern the efforts to seek a replenishment of the dimin-ished population of the Island from outward sources to a degree which may impair native sovereignty and independence, in which the United States was among the first to testify a

United States was among the first to testify a lively interest.

Relations of unimpaired amity have been maintained throughout the year with the respective Governments of Austria, Hungary, lielgium, Denmark, Hayti, Paragnay and Urugnay, Portugal and Sweden and Norway. This may also be said of Greece and Ecuador, although our relations with those States have for some years been severed by the withdrawal of appropriations for diplomatic representatives at Athens and Quito. It seems expedient to restore those missions, even on a reduced scale; and I decidedly recommend such a course with respect to Ecuador, which is likely within the near future to play an important part among the nations of the Southern Pacific.

rn Pacific. At its last extra session the Senate called for the text of the Geneva Convention for the re-lief of the wounded in war. I trust this action foreshadows such interest in the subject as will result in the adhesion of the United States to that humane and commendable engage

ment. COMMERCIAL AND INDUSTRIAL. The State Department still continues to publish to the country the trade and manufacturing reports received from United States officers abroad. The success of this course warrants its continuance and such appropriation as may be required to meet the rapidly increasing demand for these publications. With special reference to the Atlanta Cotton Exposition, the October number of the reports was devoted to a valuable collection of papers on the cotton goods trade of the ports was devoted to a valuable collection of

SANITARY. The International Sanitary Conference, for The International Sanitary Conference, for which in 1879 Congress made provision, assembled in this city early in January last, and the sessions were prolonged until March. Although it reached no specific conclusion affecting the future action of participant powers, the interchange of views proved to be most valuable. The full protocols of the sessions have been already presented to the Senate.

more intimate commercial intercourse, and from the opening of the rich interior of Mexicot or allway enterprise. I deem it important that means be provided to restrain the lawlessness unfortunately so common on the fronter, and to suppress the forays of the reservation Indians on either side of the Rio Grande.

The n-righboring States of Central America have preserved international peace, and their portward relations toward us have been those of intimate triendship. There are encouraging signs of their growing disposition to subordinate their local interests to those which serve common to them by reason of their geographical relations. The boundary dispute between Guatemala and Maxico has afforded this Government an opportunity to exercise for solution of the question. I cherish strong hope that in view of our relations of amity with both countries our efforts will meet with success.

The Costa Rican Government lately formed an engagement with Colombia for settling by arbitration the boundary question between those countries, providing that the post of arbitrator should be offered successively to the

tection against the spread of contagious dis-eases and the increase of our sanitary knowl-edge for such purposes deserve the attention of Congress.

FINANCIAL.

The report of the Secretary of the Treasury represents in detail a highly satisfactory exhibit of the state of the finances and the condition of various branches of the public service administered by that department. The ordinary revenues from all sources for the fiscal year ending June 10, 1881, were: From Customs, \$185,159,616.02; from internal revenue, \$125,264,385.51; from public lands, \$2,221,863.17; from tax on circulation and deposits of national banks, \$8,116,115.12; from repayment of interest by Pacific Railway companies, \$810,833.89; from sinking fund for Pacific Railway Companies, \$805,180.54; from Customs fees, fines, penalities, etc., \$1,225,514.86; from fees consular, letters patent and lands, \$2,244,383.99; from the proceeds of sales of Government property, \$26,217.400; from profits on coinage, \$3,488,455; from revenues of the District of Columbia, \$2,016,199.24; from miscellaneous sources, \$6,206,880.23. Total ordinary receipts, \$3,607,822,921.57.

The ordinary expenditures for the same period were: Civil expenses, \$17,941,177.19; for foreign intercourse, \$1,083,934.92; for the Indians, \$5,514,161.09; for pensions, \$50,650,279.62; for the military establishment, including river and harbor improvements, and arsenals, \$19,494,490.55; for the naval establishment, in-

er and harbor improvements, and arsenals \$19,466,460,55; for the naval establishment, in er and harbor improvements, and arsenals, \$49,466,460,555; for the naval establishment, including vessels, machinery and improvements at navy yards, \$15,896,637,66; for miscellaneous expenditures, including public buildings, light-houses and collecting the revenue, \$11,837,820,50; for expenditures on account of the District of Columbia, \$3,513,912,03; for interest on the public debt, \$82,502,741,18; for premium on bonds purchased, \$106,124,878. Total ordinary expenditures, \$260,712,887,59, leaving a surplus of revenue of \$100,069,404,93; which was applied, as follows: to the redemption of bonds for the sinking fund, \$74,431,300; fractional currency, \$109,001,005; loan of February, 1831, \$2,418,000; 10-40s of 1864, \$3,400; 5-20s of 1862, \$18,300; 5-20s of 1864, \$3,400; 5-20s of 1865, \$37,40,000. 10-40s of 1864, \$3,400; 5-20s of 1865, \$37,40,000. Loan indemnities, stock, \$1,000,000; old demand, compound interest and other notes, \$1,833,000; and to the increase of cash in the treasury, \$14,637,023,93. Total, \$100,000,009,404,98. The requirements of the sinking fund for the year amounted to \$90,786, 065,02, which sum includes a halance of \$49,817,128,78 not provided for during the previous fiscal year. The sum of \$74,480,201,35 was applied to this fund, which left a deficit of \$16,205,875,47. The increase of the revenues for 1881 over those of the previous year was \$29,352,901,10.

\$29,332,901.10.

It is estimated that the receipts during the fiscal year will reach \$400,000,000 and the expenditures \$270,000,000, leaving a surplus of \$130,000,000 applicable to the sinking fund and the redemption of the public debt. Inpprove the recommendation of the Secretary of the Treasury that provision be made for the early retirement of silver certificates, and that the act requiring their issue be repealed. They were issued in pursuance of the policy of the Government to maintain silver at or near the gold standard, and were accordingly made receivable for all customs, taxes and public dues. About sixty-six millions of them are now outstanding. They form an unnecessary addition to the paper currency, a sufficient amount of which may be readily supplied by the national banks, in accordance with the act of February 28, 1878. The Treasury Department has monthly caused at least two millions in value of silver bullion to be coined into standard silver dollars; 102 millions of these dollars have been already coined, while only about thirty-four millions are in circula-It is estimated that the receipts during the only about thirty-four millions are in circula-

For the reason which he specifies, I concur in the Secretary's recommendation that the provision for the coinage of a fixed amount each month be repealed, and that hereafter only so much be coined as shall be necessary to supply the demand. The Secretary advises that the issue of gold certificates should not for the recommendation. for the present be resumed, and suggests that the national banks may properly be forbidden by law to retire their currency except upon reasonable notice of their intention to do so. reasonable notice of their intention to do so. Such legislation would seem to be justified by the recent action of certain banks on the occasion referred to in the Secretary's report.

Of the \$15,000,000 of fractional currency still outstanding, only about \$80,000 has been redeemed the past year. The suggestion that this amount may be properly dropped from future statements of the public debt seems worthy of approval. So also does the suggestion of the Secretary as to the advisability of relieving the calendar of United States Courts in the Southern District of New York by the transferre another tribunal of the numerous transfer to another tribunal of the numerous suits there pending against the Collectors. The revenue from Customs for the past year

was \$198 059 676 02, an increase of \$11 637.611.42 was \$198,65,96,32, an increase of \$11,53,511-12 over that of the preceding year, \$108,08,562.30 of this amount was collected at the port of New York, leaving \$59,251,13.63 as the amount collected at all the other ports of the country. Of this sum \$47,57,137.68 was collected on sugar and molasses; \$7,285,24,74 on wool and its manufactures; \$21,462,34.34 on iron and steel and manufactures theyeof; \$19,688,685.81 on manufactures of silk; \$10,885,152.10 n manufactures of cotten, and \$5,485,613.04 on wines and spirits, making a total revenue from those sources of \$133,058,720.81. The expenses of collection for the past year were \$6,489,345.20—an increase over the preceding year of \$387,410.04. Notwithstanding the increase in revenue from Customs over the preceding year, the pross value of the imports, including free goods, decreased over twenty-five millions of dollars. The marked decrease was in the value of unmanufactured wool, \$14,023,882, and on that of scrap and pig iron, \$12,805,671. The value of imports of sugar, on the other hand, showed an increase of \$7,474, of steel rails \$4,365,621, of barley \$2,154,203, and of steel rails \$4,365,621, of barley \$2,154,203, and of steel in barrs, ingots, etc. \$269,046. Contrasted with this, the imports were as follows: Domestic merchandises, \$39,254,7; loreign merchandise, \$70,577,366, amports of merchandise, \$39,727,346, amports of merchandise, \$39,727,346, amports of merchandise, \$30,803,252,37; loreign merchandise, \$20,118 in the value of imports of merchandise, \$20,118 in the value of imports of merchandise over exports thereof for ten vears previous to June 30,1873,was \$104,800,922, but for the last six years there has been an excess of exports over imports of merchandise over exports of merchandise amounting to \$1,180,683, 103, an annual average of \$196,778,017. The specie value of imports of merchandise over exports over imports of species exceeded the industry the value of imports of species of \$200,778,017. The specie value of the exports of domestic merchandise

and one-half per centum "continued" bonds, making a total of bonds redeemed or which have ceased to bear interest estimated during

have ceased to bear interest estimated during the year of \$123,969,650.

The reduction of the annual interest on the public debt through these transactions is as follows: By reduction of interest to 3% per cent., \$1,047,335,227; by redemption of bonds, \$635,234,000; total, \$1,682,629,225. The 3% per centum bonds, being payable at the pleasure of the Government, are available for the investment of surplus revenue without the payment of premiums. Unless these bonds can be funded at a much lower rate of interest than they now bear, I agree with the Secretarry of the Treasury that no legislation regarding them is desirable. It is a matter for congratulation that the business of the country has been so prosperous during the past year as to yield by taxation a large surplus of income to the Government.

If the Revenue laws remain unchanged this surplus must year by year increase, on accept of the resolution of the problem of the resolution of the public debt and

at present, the entire debt could be paid in ten years. In view, however, of the heavy load of taxation which our people have al-ready borne, we may well consider whether it is not the part of wisdom to reduce the revenue, even if we delay a little the payme the debt.

ABOLISHING INTERNAL REVENUE TAXES. ABOLISHING INTERNAL REVENUE TAXES.

It seems to me that the time has arrived when the people may justly demand some relief from their present enormous burden, and that by due economy in the various branches of the public service this may readily be afforded. I therefore concur with the Secretary in recommending the abolition of all internal revenue taxes, except those upon tobacco in its various forms and upon distilled spirits and fermented liquors, and except also the special tax upon the manufacturers of and dealers in such articles. The retention of the latter tax is desirable as affording the officers of the Government a proper supervision of these articles for the prevention of fraud.

I agree with the Secretary of the Treasury that the law imposing a stamp-tax upon matches, proprietary articles, playing cards,

matches, proprietary articles, playing-cards, checks and drafts, may with propriety be repealed; and the law also by which banks and bankers are assessed upon their capital and deposit. There seems to be a general sentiment in favor of this course.

In the present condition of our revenues the tax upon deposits is especially uniust. It was never imposed in this country until it was demanded by the necessities of the war, and was never exacted, I believe, in any other country, even in the greatest exigencies. Bankers are required to secure their circulation by pledging with the Treasurer of the United States bonds of the General Government, and the interest upon these bonds, which at the time when the tax was imposed was 6 per cent, is now, in most instances, 3½ per cent, and besides, the entire circulation was originally limited by law and no increase was allowed. When the existing circulation was originally limited by law and no increase was allowed. When the existing banks had practically a monopoly of the business there was force in the suggestion that for the franchise to the favored grantees the Government might very properly exact a tax on circulation, but for years the system has been free and the amount of circulation regulated by the public demand. The retention of this tax has been suggested as a means of reimfree and the amount of circulation regulated by the public demand. The retention of this tax has been suggested as a means of reimbursing the Government for the expense of printing and turnishing the circulating notes; if the tax should be repealed it would certainly seem to be proper to require the national banks to pay the amount of such expense to the Comptroller of Currency. It is perhaps doubtful whether the immediate reduction of the rate of taxation upon liquors, etc., is advisable, especially in view of the drain on the treasury which must attend the payment of aircars of pensions. A comparison, however, of the amount of taxes collected under the varying rates of taxation which have at different times prevailed suggests the intimation that some reduction may soon be made without material diminution of the revenue. The tariff laws also need revision, but that a due regard may be paid to the conflicting interests of our citizens, important changes should be made with caution. If a careful revision can not be made at this session, a commission, such as was lately approved by the Secretary of the Treasury, would doubtless lighten the labors of Congress whenever this subject shall be brought to its consideration.

consideration.

THE ARMY.

The accompanying report of the Secretary of War will make known the operations of that department for the public. He suggests measures for promoting the efficiency of the army without adding to the number of its officers, and recommends legislation necessary to increase the number of enlisted men to 30,000, the maximum allowed by law. This he deems necessary to maintain quietness on our ever-shifting frontier; to preserve peace and suppress disorder and marauding in new settlements; to protect settlers and their property against Indians, and Indians against the eneroachments of intruders, and to enaproperty against Indians, and Indians against the energy against the energy against the energy against the the most energy against the that expansion might be attributable to the abnormal condition in which the community found itself immediately after the close of the late war. So long as that expansion might be attributable to the abnormal condition in which the community found itself immediately after the close of the amportation in the abnormal condition in which the community found itself immediately after the close of the army to the abnormal condition in which the community found itself immediately after the close of the army to the abnormal condition in which the community found itself immediately after the constitution of our judicial tribunals. But it to not change be made in th

THE ARMY.

provement of rivers and harbors. I recommend to your attention the suggestions contained in the report in regard to the condition of our fortifications, especially our coast defenses, and recommend an increase of the strength of the engineer battalion by which the efficiency of our torpedo system would be improved. I also call your attention to the remarks upon the improvement of the South Pass of the Mississippi River, the proposed free bridge over the Potomac River at Georgetown, the importance of completing at an early day the north wing of the department building, and other recommendations of the Secretary of War, which appear in his report. The actual expenditures of this department for the fiscal year ending June 30, 1881, were \$122,220,139. The appropriations for the year 1882 were \$1,488,962,542; the estimates for 1883 are \$1,454,127,691.

for 1833 are \$4,554,127,691.

THE NAVY.

The report of the Secretary of the Navy exhibits the condition of that branch of service and presents valuable suggestions for its improvement. I call your especial attention also to the appended report of the Advisory Board which he convened to devise suitable measures for increasing the efficiency of the navy, and particularly to report as to the character and number of vessels necessary to place it upon a footing commensurate with the necessities of the Government. I can not too strongly arge on you my conviction that every consideration of national safety, economy and honor imperatively demands a thorough rehabilitation of our navy. With a full appreciation of the fact that compliance with the suggestions of the head of that Department and of the Advisory Board must involve a large expenditure of the public moneys, I carnestly recommend such appropriations as will accomplish the end which seems to be so desirable. Nothing can be more inconsistent-with true public economy than withholding the means necessary to accomplish the objects intrusted by the Constitution to the National Legislature. One of these objects, and one which is of paramount importance, is declared by our fundamental law to be the provision for the "common defense." Surely nothing is more essential to the defense of the United States and of all our people than the efficiency of our navy. We have for many years mantained with foreign governments the relations of honorable peace, and that such relations may be permanent is desired by every patriotic citizen of the Republic. But if we heed the teachings of history we shall not forget, in the life of every nation, emergencies may arise when a resort to arms can alone save us from dishonor. No danger from abroad now threatens this people, nor have we any reason to distrust the friendly professions of other governments: but, for avoiding as well as repelling dangers that may threaten us fin the future, we must be prepared to enforce any policy which we may THE NAVY.

of the postal service. The receipts from postage and other ordinary sources during the past fiscal year were \$6,489,816,58. The receipts from the money order business were \$255,581.39, making a total of \$35,785,583,97. The expenditure for the fiscal year was \$69,251,736,46. The defict supplied out of the general Treasury was \$2,481,129.35, or 63 per cent of the amount. The receipts were \$3,489,918.63 in excess of those of the previous year, and \$1,575,287.97 in excess of the estimate made two years ago, before the present period of business prosperity had fairly begun. The whole number of letters mailed in this country in the last fiscal year exceeded one thousand millions. The registry system is regarded to be in excellent sondition, having been remodeled during the past four years with good results. The amount of registration fees collected during the last fiscal year was \$71,-288,220, an increase over the fiscal year ending June 30, 1877, of \$34,544,340. The entire number of letters and packages registered during the year was \$338,919, of which only 2,061 were destroyed or lost in transit. The operations of the money-order system are multiplying yearly. Under the impulse of immigration, of the rapid development of the newer States and Territories, and the consequent demand for additional means of intercommunication and exchange, during the past year \$30 additional money order offices have been established, making a total of 5,499 in operation at the date of this report. During the year the domestic money orders aggregated in value \$105,035,769,35. A modification of the system is suggested, reducing the fees for money orders not exceeding \$5 from 10 cents to 5 cents, and making the maximum limit \$100 in place of \$50. Legislation for the disposition of unclaimed money orders in the possession of the Post-office Department.

The statistics of mail transportation show that during the past year railroad routes have

despositories in connection with the Postoffice Department.

The statistics of mail transportation show that during the past year railroad routes have been increased in length 6,249 miles, and in cost \$1,114,382; while steamboat routes have been decreased in length 2,181 miles, and in cost \$134,034. The so-called star-routes have been decreased in length 3,949 miles and in cost \$364,144. Nearly all of the more expensive routes have been superseded by railroad service. The cost of the star service must, therefore, rapidly decrease in the Western States and the Territories.

The Postmaster-General, however, calls attention to the constantly increasing cost of

and the Territories.

The Postmaster-General, however, calls attention to the constantly increasing cost of railway mail service as a serious difficulty in the way of making the Department self-sustaining. Our postal intercourse with foreign countries has kept pace with the growth of the domestic service. Within the past year several countries and colonies have declared their adhesion to the Postal Union. It now includes all those which have an organized postal service, except Bolivia, Costa Rica, New Zealand and the British Colonies.

In all the States, as has been stated already, great reductions have recently been made in the expense of the star-route service. The investigations of the Department of Justice and the Post-office Department have resulted in the presentation of indictments against persons formerly connected with that service, accusing them of offenses against the United States. I have enjoined upon the officials who are charged with the conduct of the cases on the part of the Government, and upon the eminent counsel, who before my accession to the Presidency were called to their assistance, the duty of prosecuting, with the utmost vigor of the law, all persons who may be found chargeable with frauds upon the postal service.

The acting Attorney General calls attention

The acting Attorney General calls attention to the necessity of modifying the present sys-tem of the courts of the United States, a necessity due to the large increase in business, e-pecially in the Supreme Court. Litigation in our Federal tribunals became greatly ex-panded after the close of the late war. So their proper reservations; that Sitting Buil and his adherents are now prisoners at Fort Randall; that the Utes have been moved to their new reservation in Utah; that owing to their new reservation in Utah; that owing to the recent outbreak of the Apaches it was necessary to re-enforce the garrison in Arizona by troops withdrawn from New Mexico, and that some Apaches are now held as prisoners for trial, while some have escaped and the majority of the tribes are now on their reservations. There is need of existation to prevent intrusion upon the lands set aside for the Indians. A large millitary force, at great expense, is now required to patrol the boundary fine between Kansas and the Indian Territory. The only punishment that can be inflicted is the foreible removal of the intruders and the imposition of a pecuniary fine, which in most cases it is impossible to collect. There should be a penalty of imprisoument in such cases.

The separate organization of the Signal Service is urged by the Secretary of War, and a full statement of the advantages of such permanent of the advantages of the subsistence department of, the army for the sanitary between the war perpetuent of, the army for the sanitary of the form of the findian Bureau upon the casual support of bands and tribes of Indians. The report of the Chief of Engineers gives a detailed account of operations for the lindian.

The report of the Chief of Engineers gives a detailed account of operations for the improvement of rivers and harbors. I recommend to your attention the suggestions contained in the report in regard to the condition of our fortifications, especially our coast decided resport of the form of the form of the condition of our fortiffications, especially our coast decided resport of the form of t

United States against "domestic violence" this Government would be powerless to render agsistance.

The act of 1735, chapter 36, passed at a time when territorial governments received little attention from Congress, enforced this duty of the United States only as to State governments, but the act of 1807, chapter 33, applied also to territories. This law seems to have remained in force until revision of the statutes, when the provisions for the territories was dropped. I am not advised whether this alteration was intentional or accidental, but as it seems to me that the territories should be offered the protection which is accorded to States by the Constitution, I suggest legislation to that end. It seems to me that whatever views may prevail as to the policy of recent legislation by which the army has ceased to be a part of the posse comitatus, an exception might well be made for permitting the military to assist the civil Territorial authorities in enforcing the laws of the United States. This use of the army would not seem to be within the alleged evil against which that legislation was aimed. From sparseness of population and other circumstances it is often quite impracticable to summons a civil posse in piaces where officers of justice require assistance, and where a military force is within easy reach.

and number of yessels necessary to place it upon a footing commensurate with the net of the Government. I can not too strongly argo on you my conviction that every ry consideration of national safety, economy and honor imperatively demands a thorough rehabilitation of oar navy. With a full appreciation of the fact that compliance with the suggestions of the head of that Departing the suggestions of the head of the public suggestions as will accomplish the endough the objects and one which is of paramount in the suggestion of t THE INTERIOR DEPARTMENT.

cupies so large a space upon the pages of our history. We have to deal with the appalling fact that, though thousands of lives have been sacrificed and hundreds of millions of dollars expended in the attempt to solve the Indian problem, it had, until within the past few years, seemed scarcely nearer a solution than it was half a century sgo; but the Government has of late been cautiously, but steadily, feeling its way to the adoption of a policy which has already produced gratifying results, and which, in my judgment, if Congress and the Executive accord in its support, promises to relieve us ere long from the difficulties which have hitherto beset us.

For the success of the efforts now making to introduce among the Indians the customs and pursuits of civilized life, and gradually to absorb them into the masses of our citizens, having their rights and holding them to their responsibilities, there is imperative need for legislative action. My suggestions in that respect will be chiefly such as have been already called to the attention of Congress, and have received, to some extent, its consideration.

1. I recommend the passage of an act making the laws of the various States and Terri-

in that respect will be chiefly such as have been already called to the attention of Congress, and have received, to some extent, its consideration.

1. I recommend the passage of an act making the laws of the various States and Territories applicable to the Indian reservation within their borders, and extending the laws of the State of Arkansas to that portion of the Indian Territory not occupied by the five civilized tribes. The indian should receive the protection of the law; he should be allowed to maintain in coart his rights of person and property. He has repeatedly begged for this privilege. Its exercise would be very valuable to him in his progress toward civilization.

2. Of even greater importance is the measure which has been frequently recommended by my predecessors in office, and in furtherance of which several bills have been from time to time introduced in both houses of Congress. The enactment of a general law permitting the allotment inseveralty, to such indians at least as desire it, of a reasonable quantity of land, secured to them by patent and for their own protection made inalienable for twenty or twenty-five years, is demanded for their present welfare and their permanent advancement. In return for such considerate action on the part of the Government there is reason to believe that the Indians in large numbers would be persuaded to sever their tribal relations and to engage at once in agricultural pursuits, and it is now for their best interests to conform their manners of life to the new order of things. By no greater inducement than the assurance of permanent title to the soil can they be led to engage in the occupation of tilling it. The well-attested reports of their increasing interest in husbardry justify the hope and belief that the enactment of such a statute as I recomment title to the soil can they be led to engage in the occupation of tilling it. The well-attested reports of their increasing interest in husbardry justify the hope and belief that the enactment of such a statute communication. They are discussed ably in the reports of the Secretary of the Interior and of the Commissioner of Indian Affairs.

POLYGAMY. FOLIGANY.

For many years the Executive, in his annual message to Congress, has urged the necessity of strigent legislation for the suppression of polygamy in the Territories, especially Utah. The existing statute for the punishment of this odious crime, so revolting to the moral and religious sense of the community, has been contemptuously violated ever since its enactment. Indeed, in spite of commendable efforts on the part of the authorities who represent the United States in that territory, the law has in very rare instances been enforced, and for a cause to that territory, the law has in very rare instances been enforced, and for a cause to which reference will presently be made, is practically a dead letter. The fact that adherents of the Mormon Church, which rests upon polygamy as its corner-stone, have recently been peopling in large numbers Idaho, Arizona, and other of our Western Territories, is well calculated to excite the liveliest interest and apprehension. It imposes upon Congress and the Executive the duty of exercising against this barbarous system all the powers which, under the Constitution and the law, they can wield for its destruction.

tem all the powers which, under the Coastitution and the law, they can wield for its destruction.

Reference has been already made to the obstacles which the United States officers have encountered in their efforts to punish the violation of law. Prominent among the obstacles the difficulty of procuring legal evidence sufficient to warrant a conviction, even in the case of the most notoffous offenders. Your attention is called to the decision of the Supreme Court of the United States, explaining its judgment of reversal in the case of Miles, who had been convicted of bigamy in Utah. The Court refers to the fact that the secresy attending the celebration of marriages in that Territory makes proof of polygamy very difficult, and the propriety is suggested of modifying that law of evidence which now makes the wife incompetent to testify against her husband. This suggestion is approved. I recommend also the passing of an act providing that in the Territories of the United States the fact that a woman has been married to a person charged with bigamy shall not disqualify her as a witness upon his trial for that offense. I further recommend legislation by which any person solemnizing a marriage in any of the Territories shall be required, under stringent penalties for neglect or refusal, to file a certificate of such marriage in the Supreme Court of the Territory, unless Congress makes or devises other practical measures for obviating the difficulties which have hitherto attended the efforts to suppress this iniquity. I assure you of my determined purpose to co-operate with you in any lawful and discreet measures which may be proposed to that end.

EDUCATION.

EDUCATION.

Although our system of Government does not contemplate that the nation should provide or support a system for the education of our people, no measures calculated to promote that general intelligence and virtue upon which the perpetuity of our institutions so greatly depends, have ever been regarded with midiference by Congress or the Executive. A large portion of the public domain has been from time to time devoted to the promotion of education. There is now a special reason why, by setting apart the proceeds of of its sales of public lands, or by some other course, the Government should aid the work of education. Many who now exercise the right of suffrage are unable to read the ballot which they cast, and upon many who had just emerged from a condition of slavery were suddenly devolved the responsibilities of citizenship. In that portion of the country most impoverished by war I have been pleased to learn from the report of the Commissioner of Education that there has been lately a commendable increase of interest and effort for their instruction, but all that can be done by local legislation and private generosity should be supplemented by such all as can be constitutionally afforded by the National Government. If any fund be dedicated to this business it may be wisely distributed in the different States, according to the ratio of illiteracy, as by this means those locations which are most in need of such assistance will reap its especial benefit. EDUCATION.

The report of the Commissioner of Agriculture exhibits results of the experiments in which that department has been engaged during the past year, and makes important suggestions in reference to the agricultural development of the country. The steady increase of our population and the consequent addition to the number of those engaged in the pursuit of husbandry are giving to this department a growing dignity and importance. The Commissioner's suggestions touching its capacity for greater usefulness deserve attention, as it more and more commends itself to the interest which it was created to promote.

It appears from the report of the Commissioner of Pensions that since 1800 789,085 original pension claims have been filed; 450,965 of these have been allowed and inscribed on the pension-roll; 72,500 have been rejected and abandoned, being 13½ per cent of the whole number of the claims settled. There are now pending for settlement 265,575 original pension claims, 227,040 of which were filed prior to July 1, 1881. These, when allowed, will involve the payment of arrears from the date of discharge, or in case of an invalid, from the date of death or termination of a prior right in all other cases. From all the data obtainable, 18 PENSIONS.

[Continued on Sixth Page.]